

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-2, 5, 7, 9-11, 14 and 17-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 5,467,324 (Houlihan) in view of U.S. 5,892,483 (Hayes). Claims 3 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Houlihan and Hayes in view of U.S. 6,429,829 (Hirai). Further, claims 4 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Houlihan and Hayes in view of WO 00/13329 (Barnard). In addition, claims 6, 8 and 15-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Houlihan and Hayes in view of GB 2 036 447 (McLean).

In response, claims 4 and 13 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1-2 and 10 have been amended, where claim 2 has been written in independent form, and the feature of canceled claims 4 and 13 have been added to independent claims 1 and 10. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-3, 5-12 and 14-18 are patentable over Houlihan, Hayes, Hirai, Barnard and McLean for at least the following reasons.

At the outset, it is respectfully submitted that Barnard is not available as prior art with regard to the present application since Barnard has a publication date of March 9, 2000 which is after the July 29, 1999 foreign priority date of the present application. Since Barnard was cited to allegedly show the features recited in claims 4 and 13, which have been added to independent claims 1 and 10, it respectfully submitted that independent claims 1 and 10 are in allowable form.

Column 3, lines 41-51 and claim 1 of Houlihan are cited in rejecting claims 2 and 11. A careful review of the cited sections of Houlihan reveals that there is simply no teaching or suggestion of a helical antenna as recited in claims 2 and 11.

Based on the arguments provided above, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 2 and 10 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3, 5-9, 11-12 and 14-18 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1 and 10.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the

foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

PATENT
Serial No. 09/616,635
Amendment in Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2005

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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October 13, 2005

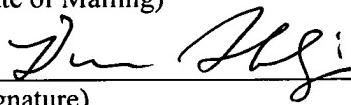
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